

The author gave the observations of several days among the wild-flowers in the Serra Range, in the Grampians, during which he met with a large number of interesting species.

Mr. Barnard congratulated the author on the interest of his remarks, but thought the title hardly correct, as he had expected the paper to refer to the Serra Range shown on the map of Victoria as extending from Mount William south-westerly to Mount Abrupt.

Miss Nethercote and Mr. C. Daley, F.L.S., said that the part of the Grampians visited by Mr. Audas is shown on the tourist map as the Serra Range.

#### NATURAL HISTORY NOTES.

Mr. A. E. Keep made some interesting remarks regarding the presence of Lyre-birds near the Sherbrooke Falls, Dandenong Ranges, during the Christmas holidays. He was fortunate enough to hear and see a male bird on its dancing-mound, and afterwards a young bird came within a few feet of him during its search for food.

The chairman instanced the value of recording natural history notes and particulars of exhibits in the *Naturalist*, stating that a country member, Dr. J. R. M. Thomson, of Lismore, N.S.W., had brought the Society and the *Naturalist* under the notice of the pupils attending the public school at Keerrong in that district, with the result that they had requested him to forward for exhibition at a Club meeting certain specimens then on the table. He considered the Club was indebted to Dr. Thomson for his action, and trusted he would convey to the pupils the Club's appreciation of their thoughtfulness.

#### EXHIBITS.

By Mr. J. W. Audas, F.L.S.—About forty species of dried plants in illustration of his paper, including *Micromyrtus microphylla*, Benth., Fringed Heath-Myrtle, *Laxmannia sessiliflora*, R. Br., Nodding Lily, *Prostanthera hirtula*, F. v. M., Hairy Mint-bush, *Kunzea parvifolia*, Sch., Crimson Kunzea (white variety), *Correa speciosa*, Andw., Red Correa, *C. æmula*, F. v. M., Hairy Correa, and *Pultenæa laxiflora*, Benth., Spreading Bush-Pea.

By Mr. F. G. A. Barnard.—Flowering specimens of *Nuytsia floribunda*, the Christmas-tree of Western Australia, forwarded by Mr. D. Herbert, Government Botanist, Perth, W.A.; also specimen of wolfram ore (weighing  $2\frac{1}{4}$  lbs.) from Wilks's Creek, Marysville.

By Mr. C. E. Cole.—Insects, including specimens of Ichneumonidæ, Lepidoptera, and Hemiptera, the latter having a colour pattern very similar to some Bracon flies (Braconidæ), also exhibited.

By Mr. T. S. Hart, M.A.—Four species of Victorian *Cassythas* (Dodder Laurels) from various localities; also *Restio tetraphyllum*, from Springs reserve, near Clayton.

By Mr. F. Keep.—Flowering specimens of the White Paperbark Myrtle, *Melaleuca genistifolia*, of Queensland, grown at Canterbury; the flowers, being very sweetly scented, have been very attractive to the brown butterfly, *Heteronympha merope*, so numerous lately.

By Mr. P. C. Morrison.—Photographs of scenes at Marysville taken during recent excursion; branch of beech, with knot, to which the fungus *Cyttaria Gunnii* was attached when found; also specimen of black snail, *Paryphanta atramentaria*, from Marysville excursion.

By Mr. F. Pitcher.—Young specimens of the fungus *Polyporus mylittæ*, Cooke, known as "blackfellows' bread," from Drouin. The sections shown were cut with a penknife a few days after the specimens were unearthed. Also, section of a bitumenized paper drain-pipe recently found during excavations for new buildings at South Yarra.

By Mr. J. Searle.—Specimens of "Narethaite," a form of limestone found at Naretha, W.A., on the Trans-Australian Railway; also *Daphnia longispina*, found at Heidelberg, new for Australia.

By Mr. J. Stickland.—Photographs of Marysville and district, in illustration of excursion report; also frond of *Lomaria fluviatilis*, measuring three feet in length.

By Mr. P. R. H. St. John.—Young plant and seeds of *Ginkgo biloba*, Madien-hair Tree, or "Pa-koo" of China.

By Dr. J. R. M. Thomson, on behalf of pupils of Keerrong public school, N.S.W.—Single valve of large fresh-water mussel, showing fine "mother-of-pearl," for which the shells are collected commercially in the district; also jasper and chalcedony pebbles from a creek tributary of the Richmond River, the chalcedony pebbles being enhydrous (containing water), and a fractured pebble showing mammillate structure of wall of cavity.

By Mr. H. B. Williamson.—Photograph of *Prostanthera Walteri*, taken at Buffalo Gorge, December, 1918.

After the usual conversazione the meeting terminated.

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NATIVE FIBRE PLANTS.—In the *Journal of Agriculture, Victoria*, for December, Professor Ewart, D.Sc., Ph.D., Government Botanist, points out in an interesting article that the term "fibre plant" has recently been used in a misleading sense in attempting to indicate opportunities for new industries, and gives the conditions which must govern any idea of utilizing Australian plants for such purposes.